



**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

October 15, 2008

Pradeep Ganguly, Ph.D.  
Director

Dear Rural Resident:

Attached is a copy of a News Release announcing amendments to the Weapons Law in Montgomery County as it pertains to deer management. The Bill 43-05 went into effect on March 17, 2008.

As a rural resident in Montgomery County, we are asking that you read the attached news release and familiarize yourself with these amendments. The legislation specifically addresses deer overpopulation in Montgomery County and the problems associated with it. The new law provides more flexibility for deer hunting under controlled circumstances and gives the County additional tools for addressing the problem while protecting the public's safety.

With hunting season already underway in Montgomery County, we strongly encourage you to educate your family members, farm tenants, hunters and others about these changes in the local law as it pertains to deer hunting in the County. Extra copies of the News Release are enclosed for distribution to interested parties. The most significant change in the new law addresses hunting in urban areas. This will be permitted under controlled circumstances on parcels of land that are 50 acres in size or larger. If the property is at least 50 acres in size, hunters no longer need to obtain a deer damage control permit from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources or approval from the Montgomery County Chief of Police.

We are currently in the process of updating our "Summary of the Weapons Law" brochure. When revised copies are available, we will send these to you for distribution to your farm tenants and/or hunters. In the meantime, the Weapons Ordinance, Chapter 57, of the Montgomery County Code can be viewed on the County's Agricultural Services website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices).

If you have questions pertaining to Montgomery County's Weapons Law, please call the Montgomery County Police Department at 240-773-5030.

Sincerely,

Jeremy V. Criss  
Agricultural Services Manager

Attachments & Enclosures

e:ruralresident (correspondence oct08)